

Open Source e-Gov Reference Architecture AIC ET Briefing 10/20/03

George Thomas, GSA Enterprise Architect

Agenda

- [1] GSA OSERA
 - Program, Platform and Projects
- [2] MDA, MOF, XMI
 - EA Models and View Isometrics
- [3] SOA, SOIP-BPMS
 - Agile SDLC, ARAD for e-Gov
- [4] PortMan POC
 - Model simulation and artifact generation
- [5] OSERA Revisited
 - Project Goals
- [6] SBIR/STTR
 - OSERA Research topics

[1] OSERA Program: Business Value Proposition

Purpose

Aggregates existing but separately developed and maintained
 Open Source software Projects into a consolidated GSA managed software Platform that provides the infrastructure for sharing and federation of Enterprise Architecture model artifacts, and e-Gov interoperability

Objective

Provides an open standards based, Open Source software toolset implementing the most significant architecture and integration trends and innovations, including a Model Driven Architecture Integrated Modeling Environment (MDA-IME), and a Service Oriented architecture Integration Platform acting as a Business Process Management System (SOIP-BPMS)

Benefit

A transformation enabling modernization platform for EA and e-Gov, connecting 'design time' and 'run time' tools with an extremely low cost, Internet open standards based, universally accessible Open Source software suite

[1] OSERA Project: EA MDA-IME Design Tools

Purpose

 Simplify and unify EA processes and artifacts, alleviating 'modeling fatigue' associated with disparate analysis practitioners and methodologies, and eliminating the ad-hoc interpretation of their resulting documentation

Objective

 Formalize modeling syntax and semantics for comprehending, sharing, and reusing business and technical components that must interoperate, or otherwise participate in existing or planned shared services across Federal, State and Local Agencies

Result

Enable change by making Business Agility and IT Systems
 Adaptability the design center of EA, accepting constant
 evolution of Business requirements and IT systems
 heterogeneity as the rule for e-Gov constituents

[1] OSERA Project: e-Gov SOIP-BPMS Runtime Tools

Purpose

 Move the focus of IT interoperability from monolithic standalone applications to message sequences that cross enterprise and geographic boundaries, to realize the vision of e-Gov transformation

Objective

Embrace the logical 'publish-find-bind-execute' Web Services paradigm and provide the physical infrastructure for a fault-tolerant 'Enterprise Service Bus', integrating declarative XML Web services standards based business process descriptions with a J2EE application server

Result

 A runtime engine for contractually driven business process choreography execution, that can represent any sequence in a business value chain interaction, whose logical processing components are implemented using a mature platform independent enterprise technology

[1] OSERA Program: GSA Business Proposition

- The Open Source community by definition cannot provide a cohesive software Platform that satisfies specific Federal/State/Local needs for these OSERA Platform solution user communities;
 - EA knowledge management requirements
 - Cross analyze OMB CPIC data to drive Government transformational effort
 - e-Gov interoperability requirements
 - NASCIO as part of DHS mission, overall redundancy elimination and cost reduction initiatives, etc.
- GSA is in a unique position to aggregate, extend and manage existing Open Source software projects into a cohesive Platform for both EA and e-Gov constituencies

[1] OSERA Program: Ecosystem

- GSA as Platform distributor and channel enabler
 - Program policy and governance
 - License goal guaranteed reciprocity and indemnification
 - Platform vision and roadmap
 - EA and e-Gov initial constituency with MDA-IME and SOIP
 - Product and Service Supply Chain Agent
 - Project principals as core service/support contractors
- (Small) Business and existing Open Source Communities
 - Project Maintainers and technology experts
 - Core Service Providers
- Academia
 - Project feature/function task force
 - Accredited curricula
 - Project Maintainers and technology experts

[2] MDA Overview

- MDA modeling separates strategic business conceptual models from tactical systems implementation models
 - MDA Models can represent current 'as-is' or planned 'to-be' capabilities
- The strategic and conceptual modeling of any business (Agency) as a set of *collaborating roles, entities and processes* leads to;
 - A Platform Independent Model (PIM) that is separate from (and hopefully will outlast) any existing or planned IT systems implementation
 - That is represented by a Platform Specific Model (PSM)
- EA needs MDA to homogenize modeling (syntax and semantics) for successful sharing and reuse of components that participate in existing or planned shared services across Federal, State and Local Agencies

[2] MDA PIM and PSM

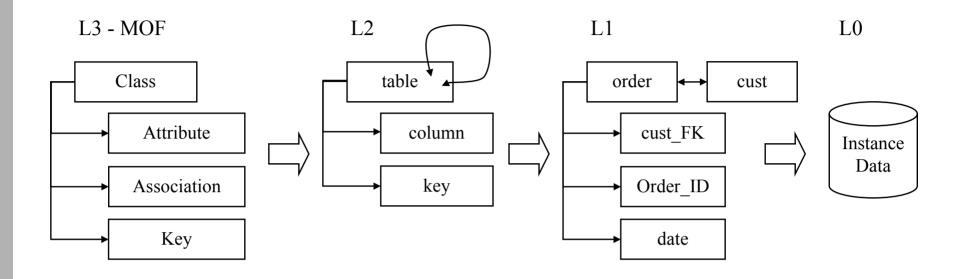
9

- A PIM is 'transformed' to a PSM 'instance' using a meta-model of that specific target implementation platform
- PSM target platforms include technologies such as CORBA, EAI, J2EE, .NET, Web services, ebXML, etc.
- PIM and PSM decoupling is required where the conceptual or contextual PIM of a business may change, e.g. DHS
- MDA's underlying modeling formalism (MOF-XMI) enables the *view isometrics*, *recursive decomposition* (progressive refinement) and automatic code generation that results in a transformation of a PIM to a PSM

[2] MDA's Underlying Semantic/Syntactic Formalism

- The Meta Object Facility (MOF) underlies UML and MDA, with four modeling levels moving from abstract to concrete
 - L3, meta-meta-model of objects required to describe any metamodel
 - An 'class' is the highest level of abstraction
 - L2, meta-model objects that can be used to describe any business domain or technology platform
 - A 'table' is a specialization of 'class'
 - L1, model objects that describe a specific business domain or technology platform
 - An 'ORDER' is an instance of a 'table'
 - L0, data instances of L1 models
 - The specific order data record that is stored in the ORDER 'table'
- XMI is the textual serialization format for MOF objects, expressed as XML documents
 - XMI based information sharing is the key to EA KM

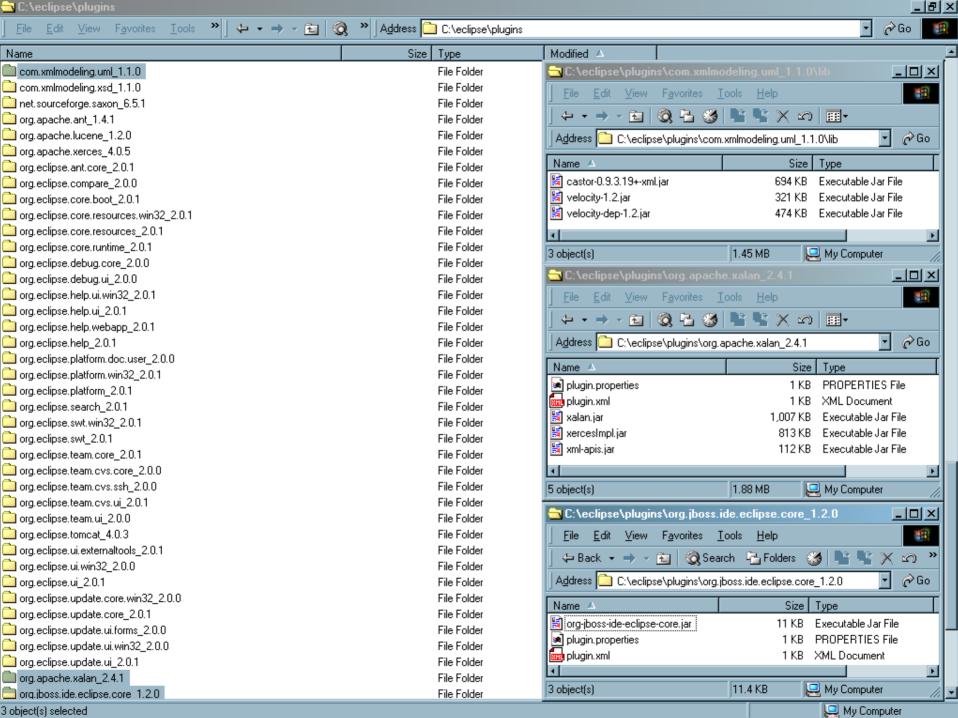
[2] MDA – MOF (L3, L2, L1, L0) RDBMS example



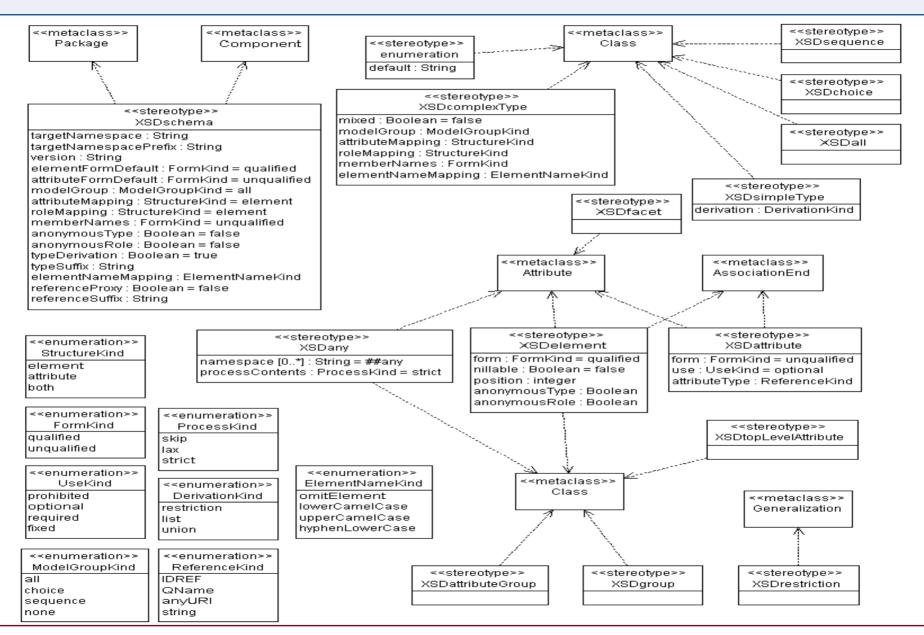
- Moving from far left (L3) to far right (L0) represents a specialization of the highest meta-level abstraction to the concrete instance of the domain being modeled
 - Continuing with the RDB example
- Consider the DRM for example the XML Schema specification (XSD) from W3C is a L2 meta-model whose UML representation is isometric
 - An XSD domain dialect is a L1 model (such as UBL, etc), and a valid instance of that L1 XSD is a L0 XML document/object

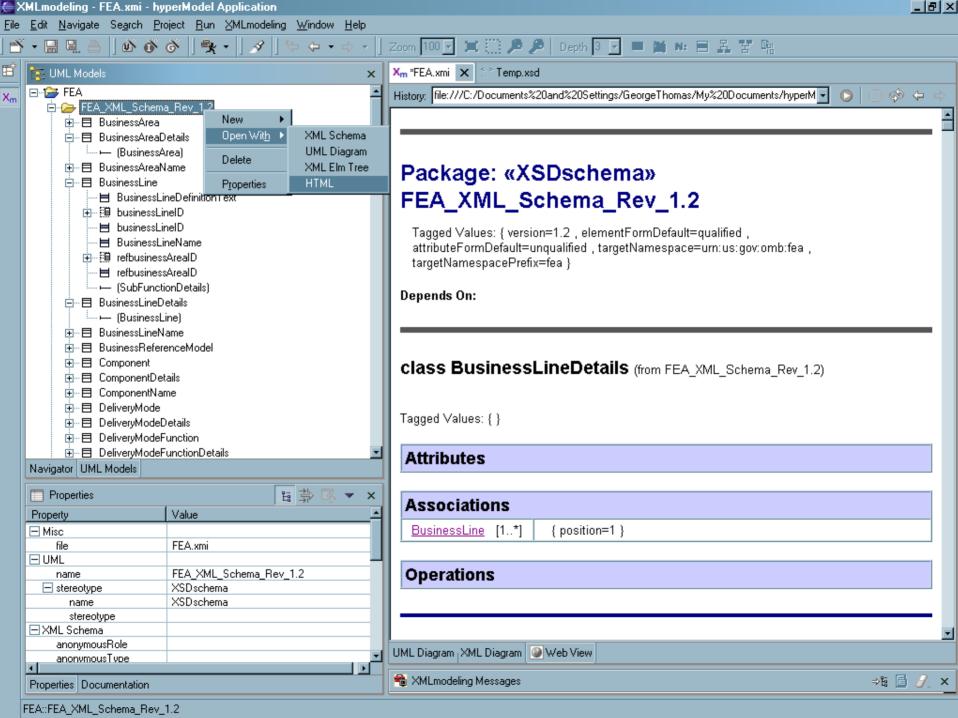
[2] HyperModel – View Isometrics in Eclipse

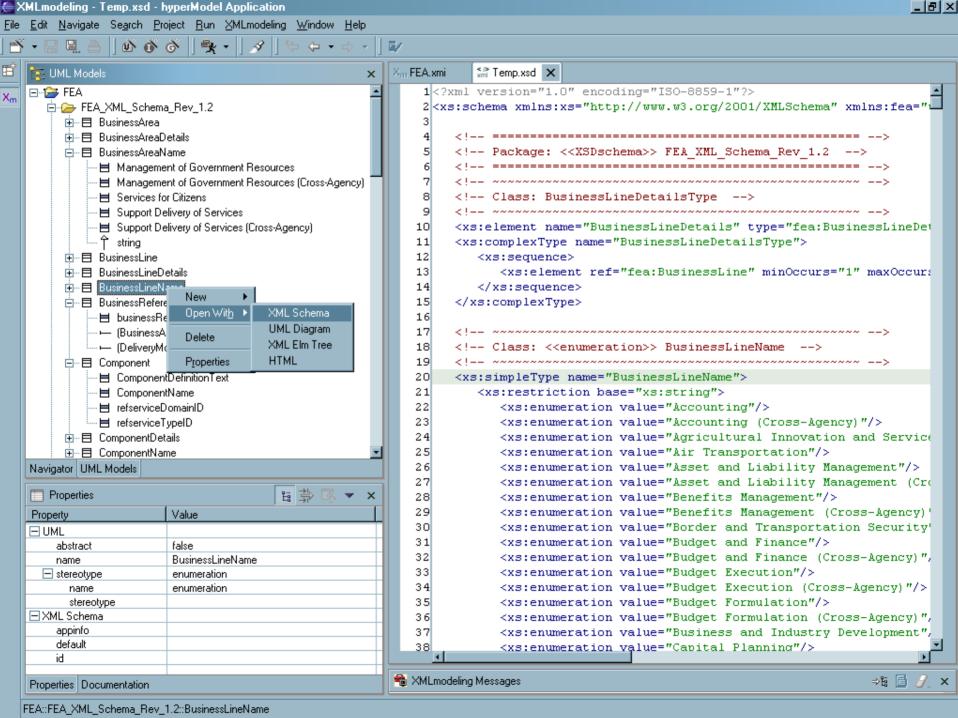
- Eclipse is a standards based Open Source 'application foundation'
 - Open Source community eclipse.org seeded by IBM
 - Eclipse is the core code base of IBM's commercial J2EE IDE,
 WebSphere Solution Application Developer
 - Extensible via 'plug-in' architecture
- Ontogenics (company) offers HyperModel (tool) as an Eclipse plug-in
 - Uses OMG's MOF and XMI technologies to deliver isometric views of UML <->XSD
 - Based on the Java Metadata Interface (API) jmi.jar
 - xmlmodeling.com
 - Implemented by creating a UML Profile for XSD
 - UML Profiles are collections of stereotypes
 - UML extensibility mechanisms

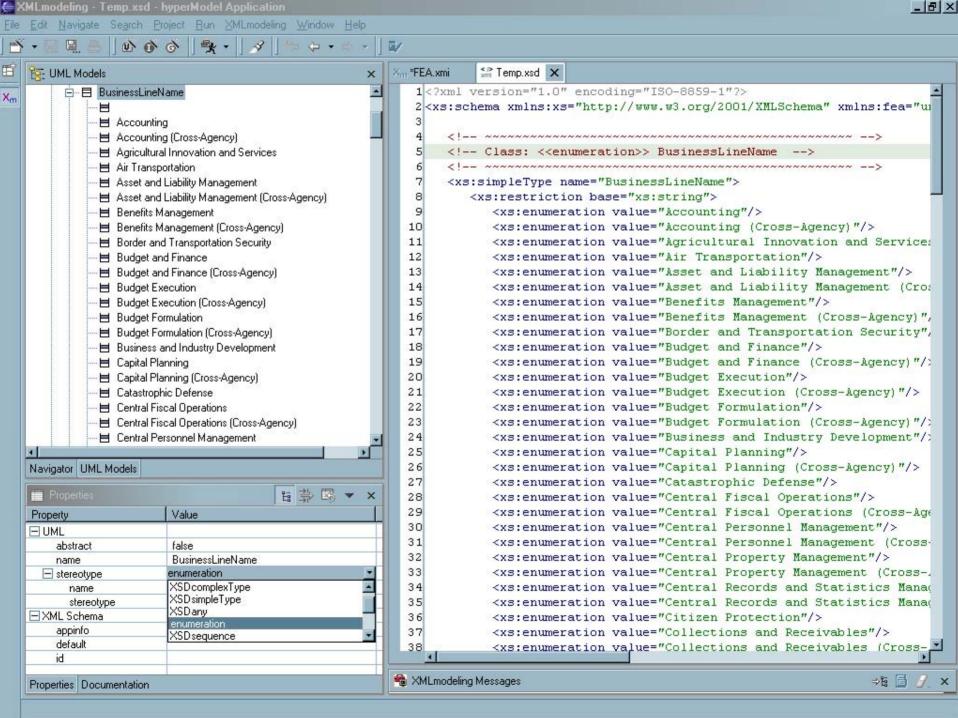


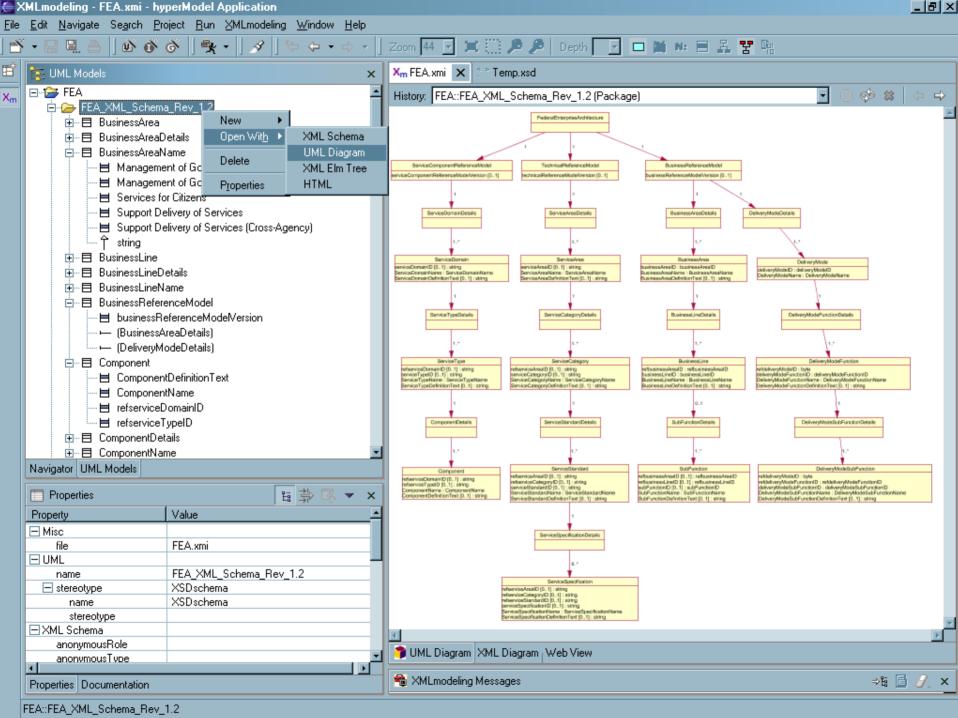
[2] UML Profile for <<XSDSchema>> package











[3] Service Oriented Architectures (SOA): Overview

- SOA emphasizes *trans-enterprise interoperability* (Citizen to Agency to Agency = eGov) of loosely coupled distributed 'Service' components (WSDL) whose orchestrated XML based message choreographies (BPEL) *layer* (WS-*) open Internet standard transports and protocols
 - SOA externalizes EAI and OO-DBC disciplines, embracing the logical 'publish-find-bind-execute' paradigm referred to as an Enterprise Service Bus (ESB) for secure, reliable message transactions
- Web Services open standards are key foundation enablers for SOA, moving the focus of IT interoperability from monolithic stand-alone applications to message streams that cross enterprise boundaries
 - e-Gov Quicksilver?

[3] OSERA Project: SOIP - Tools Overview

- JBOSS (HTTP, JSP, Servlet, EJB container)
 - jboss.org
 - Runtime container management, message queues, declarative transactions and persistence, COTS ERP adapter/connectors, more
 - JMX, JMS-MDB, CMT, CMP-JDO, JCA, etc.
 - High Availability, Fault-tolerant Clusters
 - Managed server cloud
- Apache Group
 - xml.apache.org, jakarta.apache.org
 - Portal, Trans-coding, Web-Services, XML Native DB
 - JetSpeed, Cocoon, Axis, Xindice
- Other RDBMS, Search, Email
 - PostgresQL or mySQL, Lucene, James
- Legacy wrapper Swiss army knife
 - Open standards, Open Source modernization capability

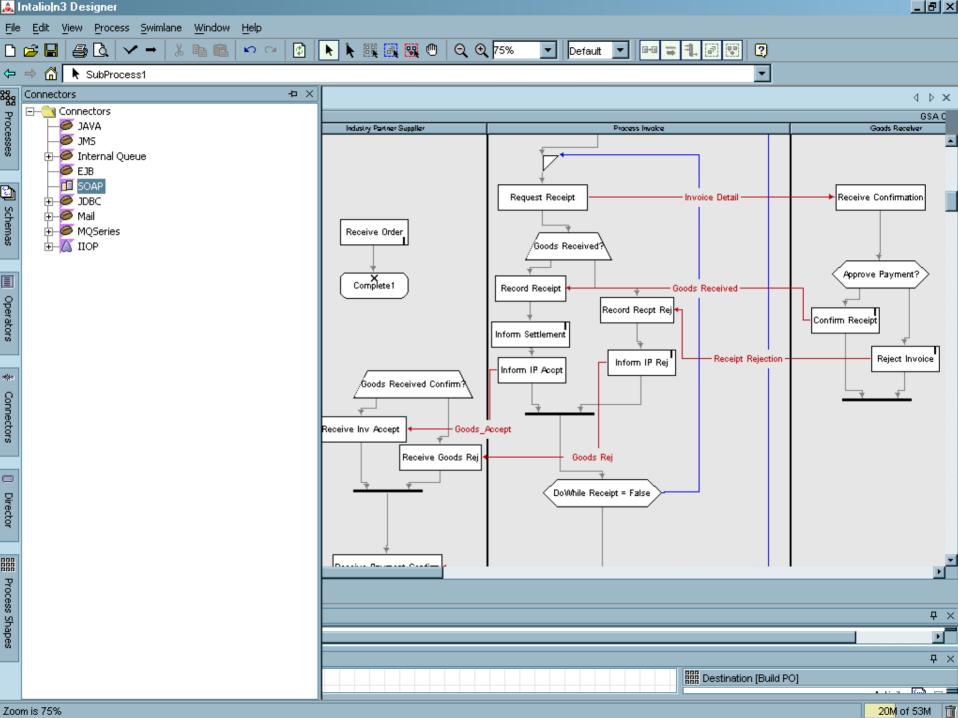
20

[3] BPMS: Overview

- The BP Virtual Machine
 - A runtime engine for declarative (XML based BPEL, BPML)
 executable process scripts
- Process script as the fundamental unit of management
 - Where communication meets computation
 - The context in which people and systems interact to create value for customers
 - The key data type and intellectual property of business that defines all value chain constituents
- The locus of business agility
 - Business people conceive, deploy, monitor and optimize process scripts using a formal standard for process representation
 - Competitive in-sourcing/out-sourcing is the capability to dynamically substitute actors implementing static roles defined as process participants (inferring a collapse of the SDLC)

[3] MDA vs. BPMS

- MDA comes from the OO community
 - omg.org/mda, promises to separate strategy from tactical systems deployment (PSM) with linkage from
- BPMS message is targeted at the Business community
 - bpmi.org, promises a standardized formalism for graphical process notations (BPMN), and isometric XML scripts (BPML)
- For various (marketing) reasons, their goals may seem at odds
 - See Frankel (MDA Expert/Author) and Smith (BPMS Expert/Author) white papers at businessprocesstrends.com
- EA needs to understand the linkage between business abstractions and system implementations
 - Recursive decomposition, views provided for disparate user needs
 - Business executive, capital planner, system architect, software developer
- BUT Solving a particular B2B problem may not require recursive decomposition of a 'complex' model
 - The 'mother of all virtual machines' is an interesting proposition
 - One view (process diagrams), system linkages hidden as much as possible



[5] EA Views and Perspectives

- A BPMN *view* is a *representational style* applied to an information model at a specific (low) level of abstraction
- GOAL Established and accepted formalized process notation and corresponding (isometric) script that can represent public and private boundary crossing value chain interactions
 - Intalio's notation doesn't look like BPMN
 - Instance orientation is a tough read
- The number of views required is *relative*, and needs to mirror the roles of whatever humans are engaged in using EA tools or models to understand how IT helps to run an organizations' business
- A perspective combines multiple views into a consolidated UI
 - Eclipse makes it easy to create a custom perspective which can combine views arbitrarily

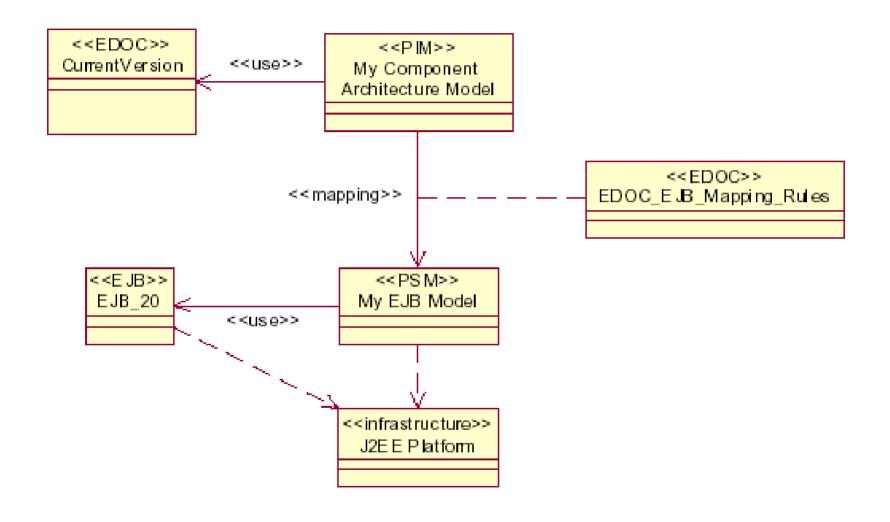
[3] SOIP as BPMS

- A typical BPMS product suite is a process engine (process virtual machine) that runs the declarative scripts generated by a process design tool, that uses a process repository
- The OSERA Project: SOIP-BPMS basically needs to implement the fundamental runtime semantic constructs as a set of object dynamics
 - This is the same exercise as making an object model out of an existing XSD, here beginning with BPMN/BPML/BPEL
- The toolset just described for OSERA Project: SOIP-BPMS can be used to implement the process runtime engine, or business process virtual machine (BPVM)
 - The runtime engine of BPMS is a SOIP!
 - jbpl.org is interesting Open Source Academic initiative working on this BPVM idea

[4] Setting up the 'PortMan POC' Demo

- Data Access Technologies (company) ComponentX (tool) implementation of their OMG ratified Enterprise Distributed Object Computing (EDOC) UML Profile for MDA
 - EDOC is an elegant expression of SOA
 - enterprise-component.com
- EDOC is the *actionable formalism* to model GSA roles, actors that play them (people and/or machines), and their collaborative responsibilities
 - GSA 'business' package the PIM
 - GSA 'technology' package the PSM
- UBL data types and messages travel through the GSA model
- Model simulation runs can interact with existing systems with a choice of *adapters*

[4] MDA UML Profile: EDOC PIM, J2EE PSM



[4] GSA baseRole (EDOC) Quick Reference 1 of 2

BusinessCollaboration is a

- CommunityProcess, which is the central concept of any enterprise specification is that of a *community* that models a collection of entities interacting to achieve some purpose, which is defined by the *objective* of the community concerned
 - Each community is modeled as a configuration of *enterprise objects in roles*. The EDOC system of concern (or the components of that system) is modeled as one or more of the enterprise objects that are the members of the community

ServiceRole is a

- ProcessRole, which identify the parts of the business processes for which the system is responsible and the artifacts that are involved
 - An EDOC system or each component of that system is modeled as an enterprise object and is assigned a role or roles in the community and associated with specific parts of one or more processes

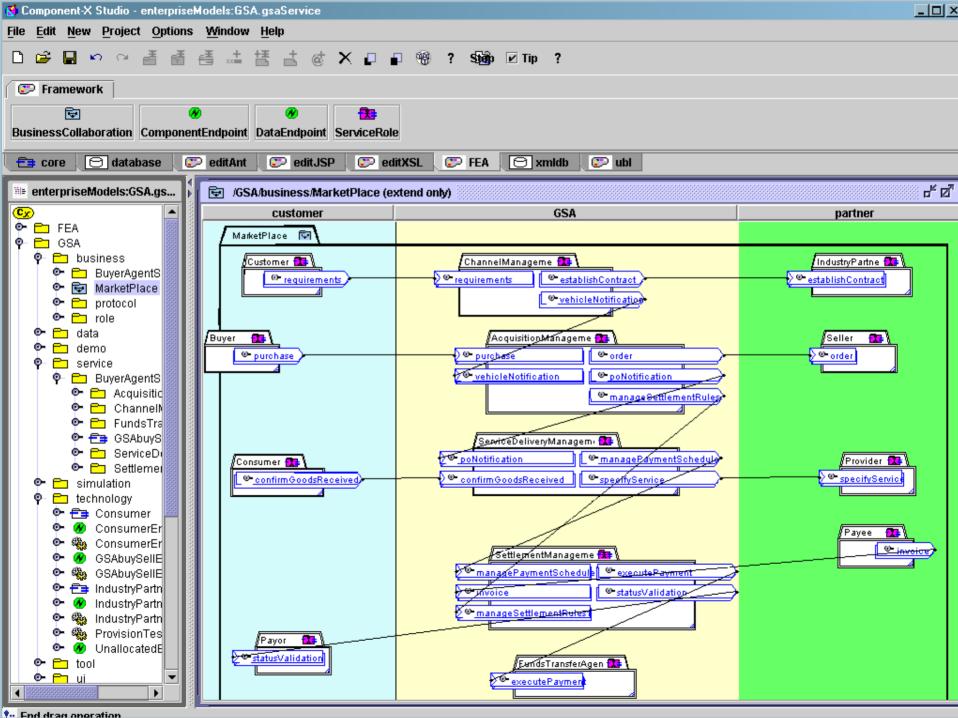
[4] GSA baseRole (EDOC) Quick Reference 2 of 2

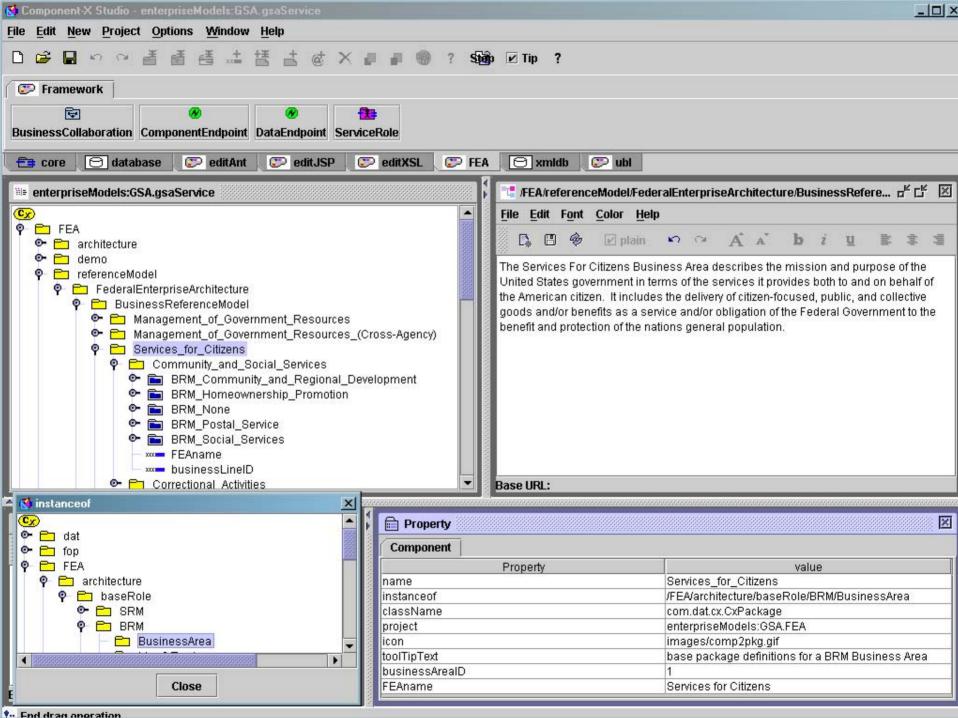
ComponentEndpoint extends

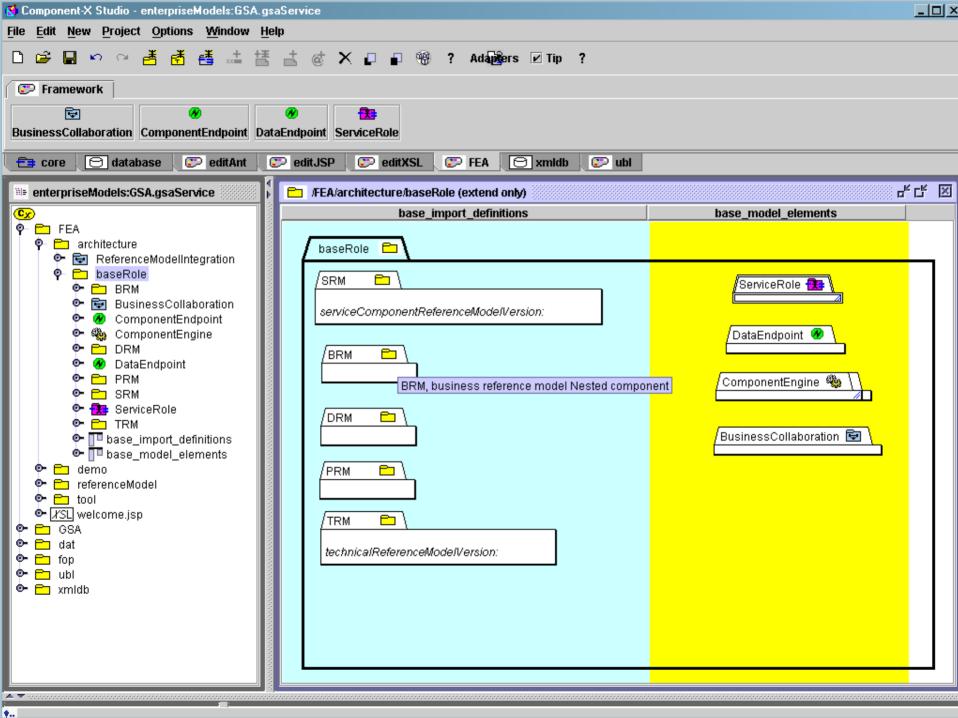
- An *endpoint*, which models a set of role resources for accessing an external role
 - Endpoints may only contain role resources

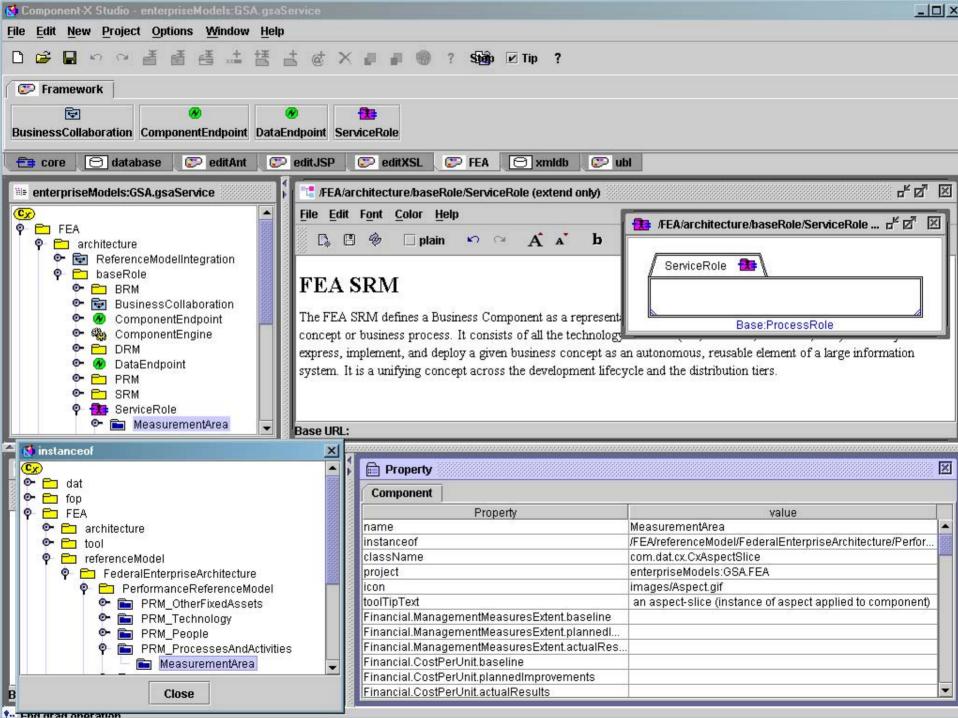
DataEndpoint extends

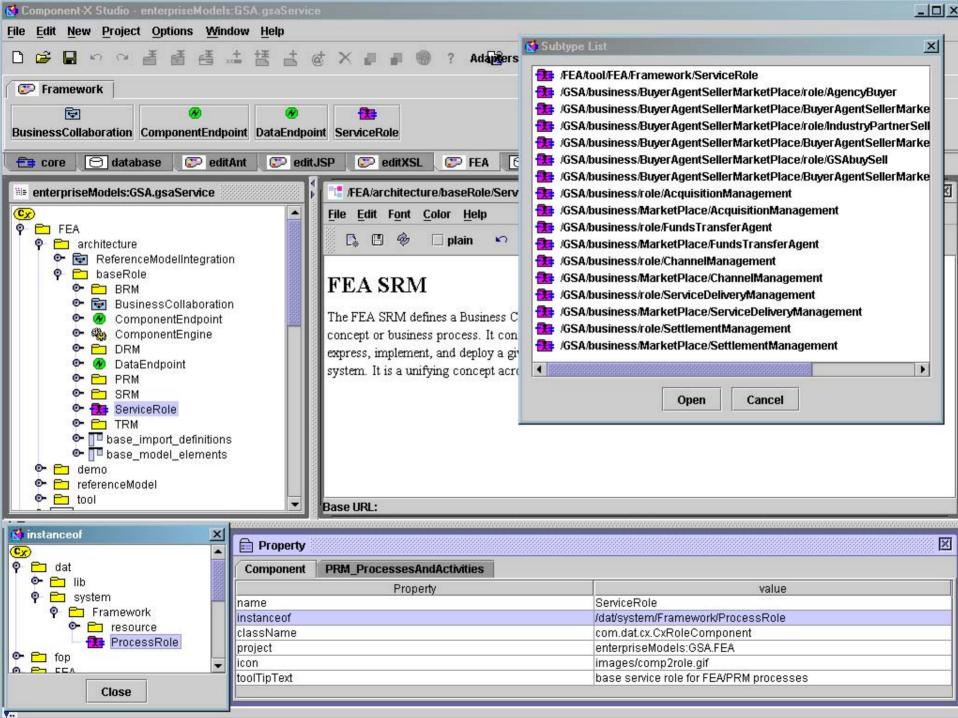
- An *endpoint*, can be thought of as a 'system of record' or data persistence resource
- ComponentEngine extends
 - An *engine*, which provides an execution environment for the set of components it contains
 - The engine is instantiated at runtime based on a distinguished aspect (WSDL, ebXML, etc)
 - Engines are composite components and may contain proxies and regular components

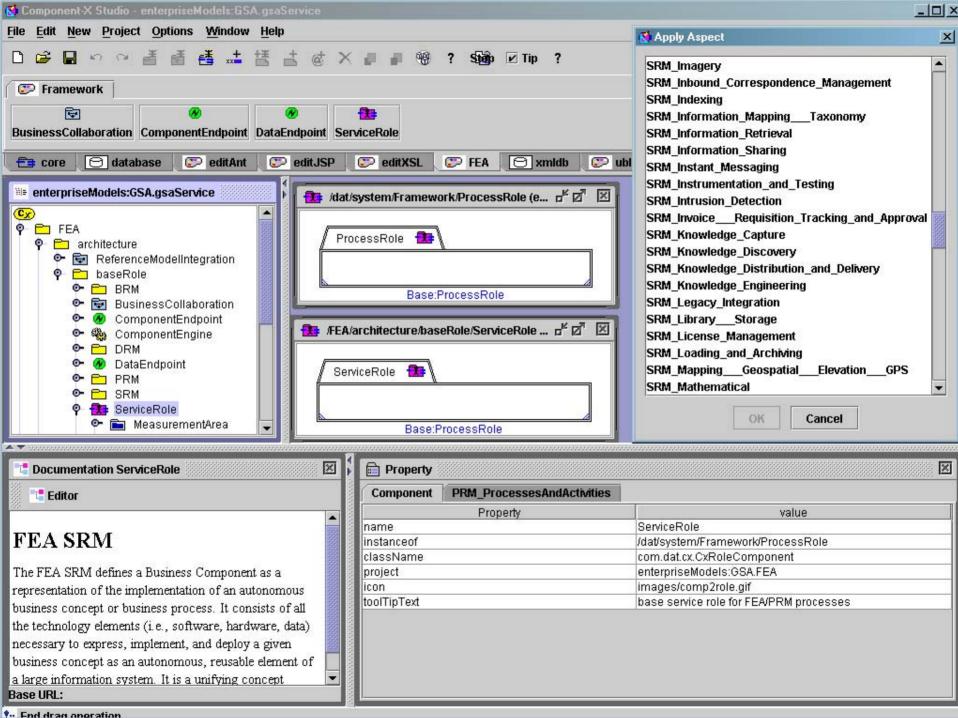


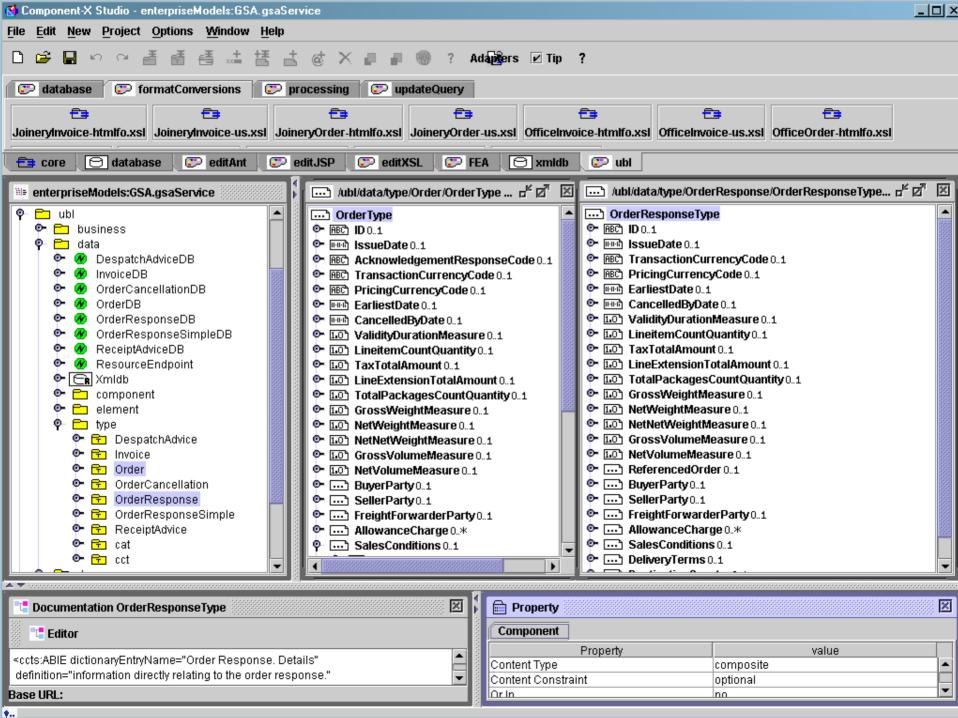


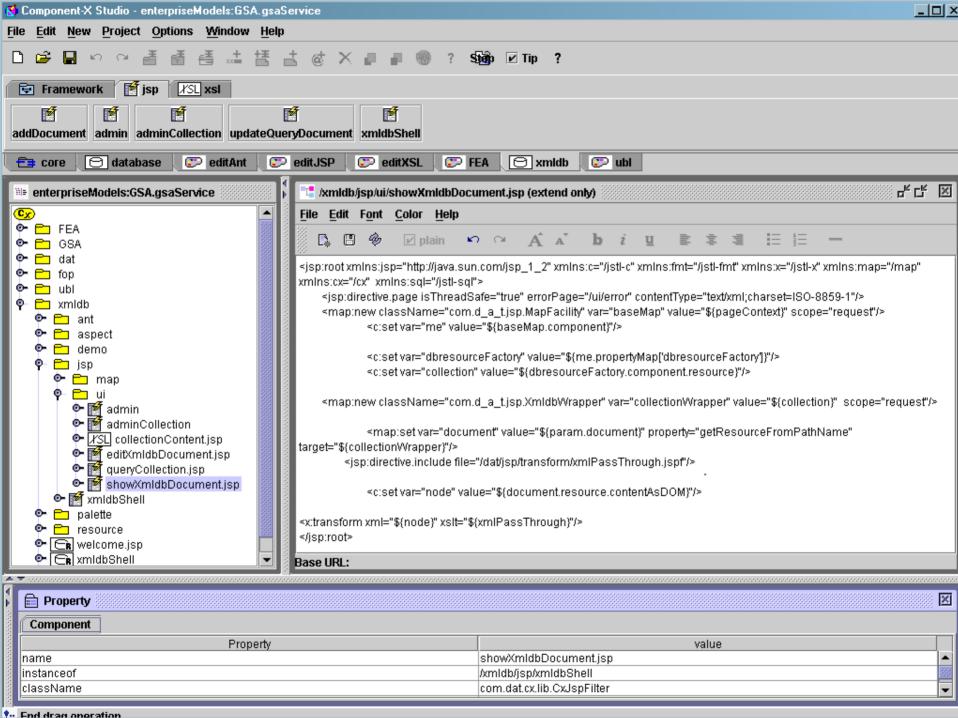






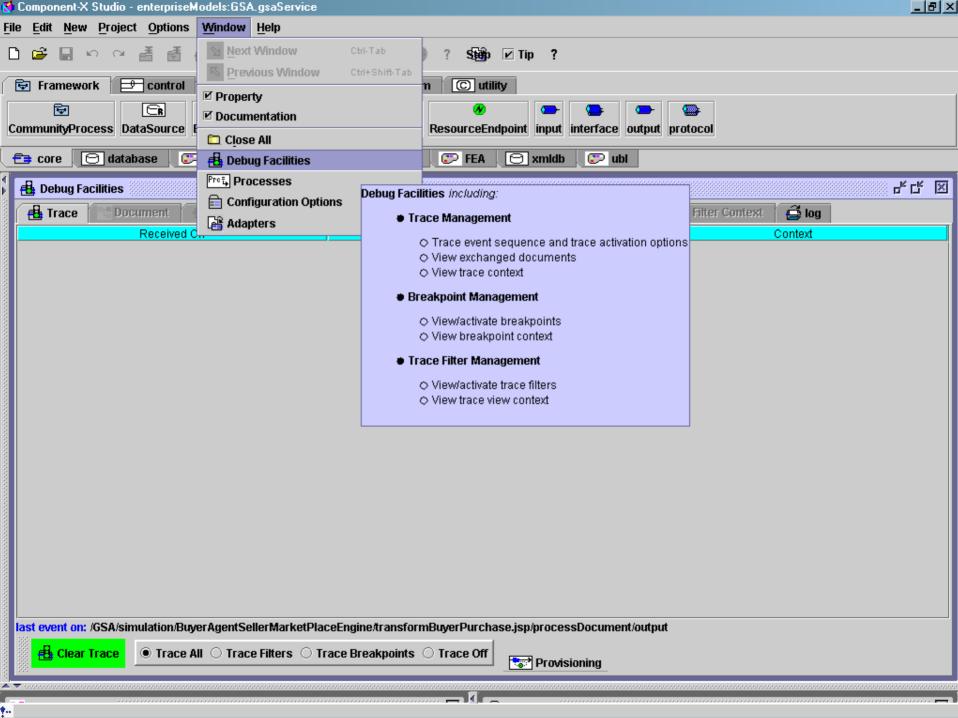


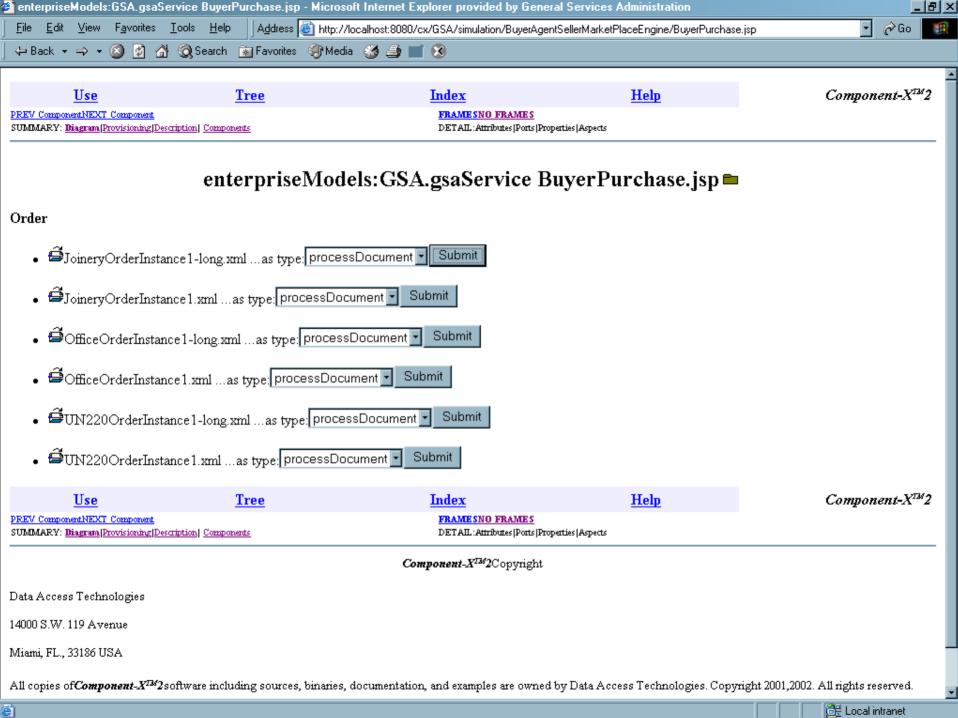


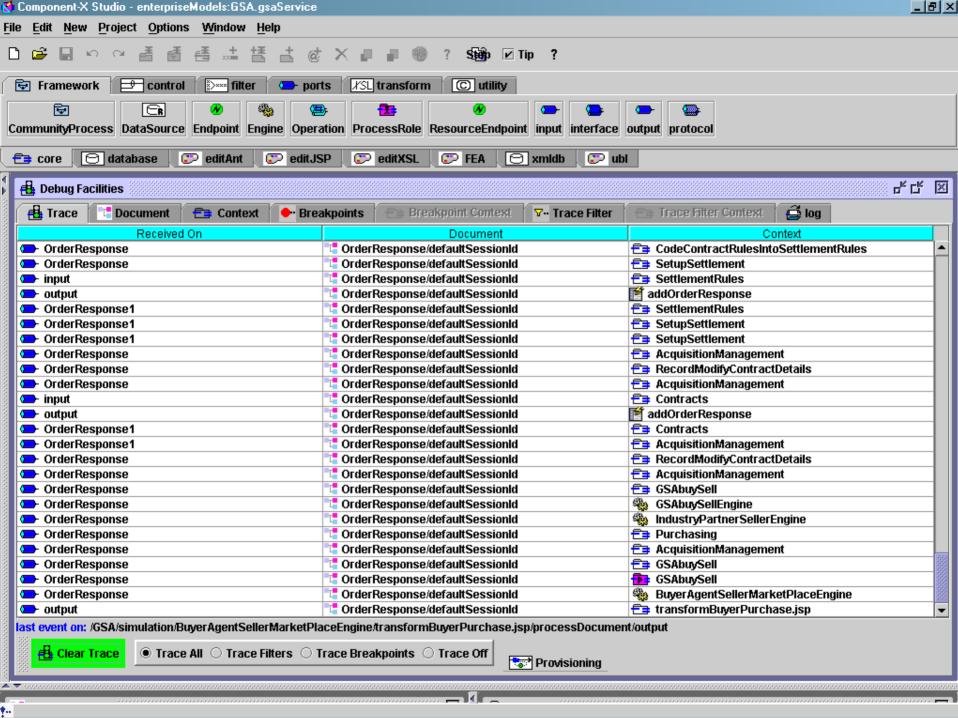


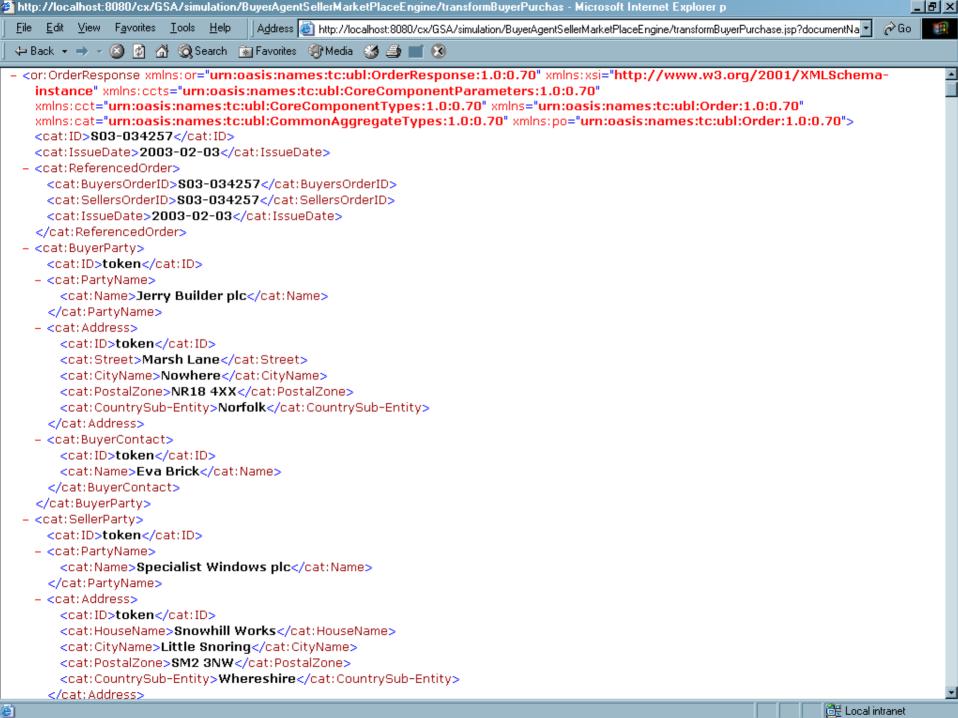
[4] Demo – GSA PSM Trace with ComponentX

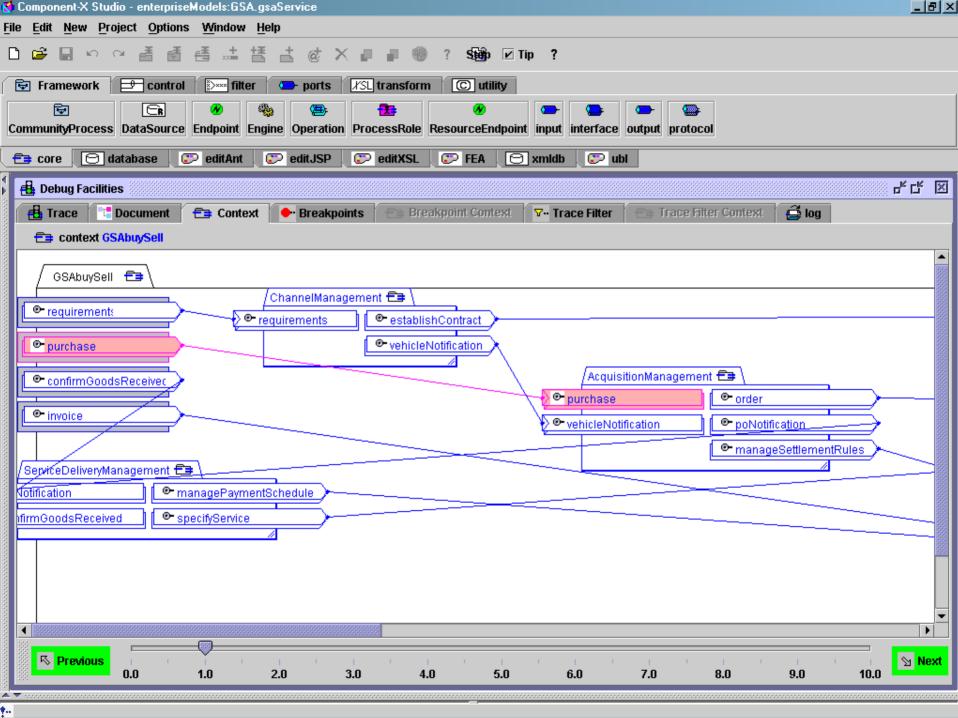
 Next 11 slides are screen shots from Live Demo of a notional 'to-be' GSA EA model in ComponentX, which traces through each and every component in the business collaborations that have been modeled

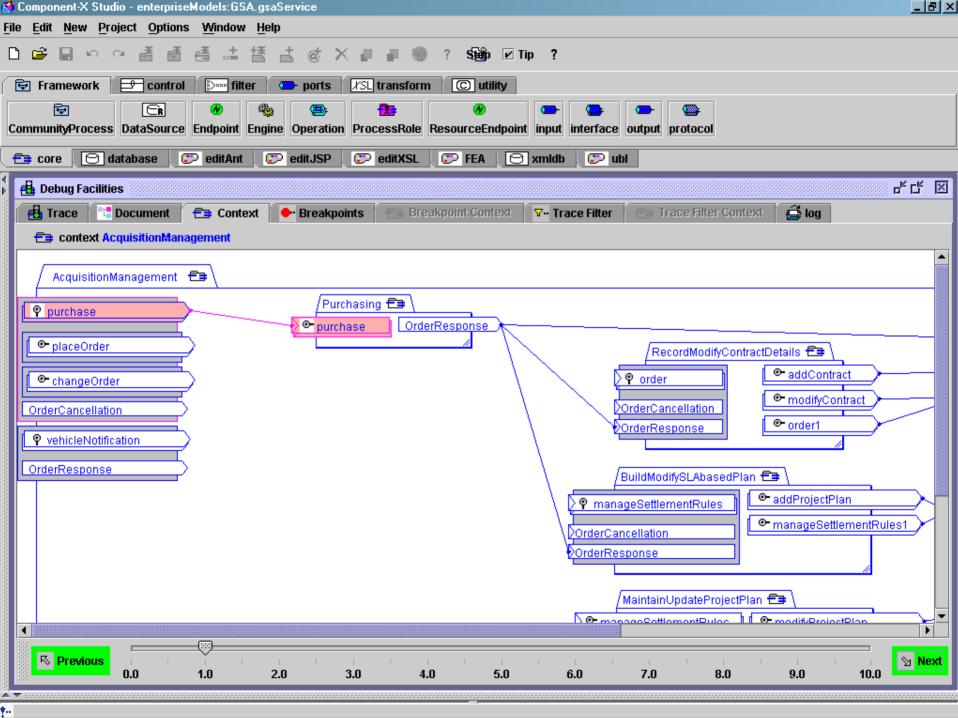


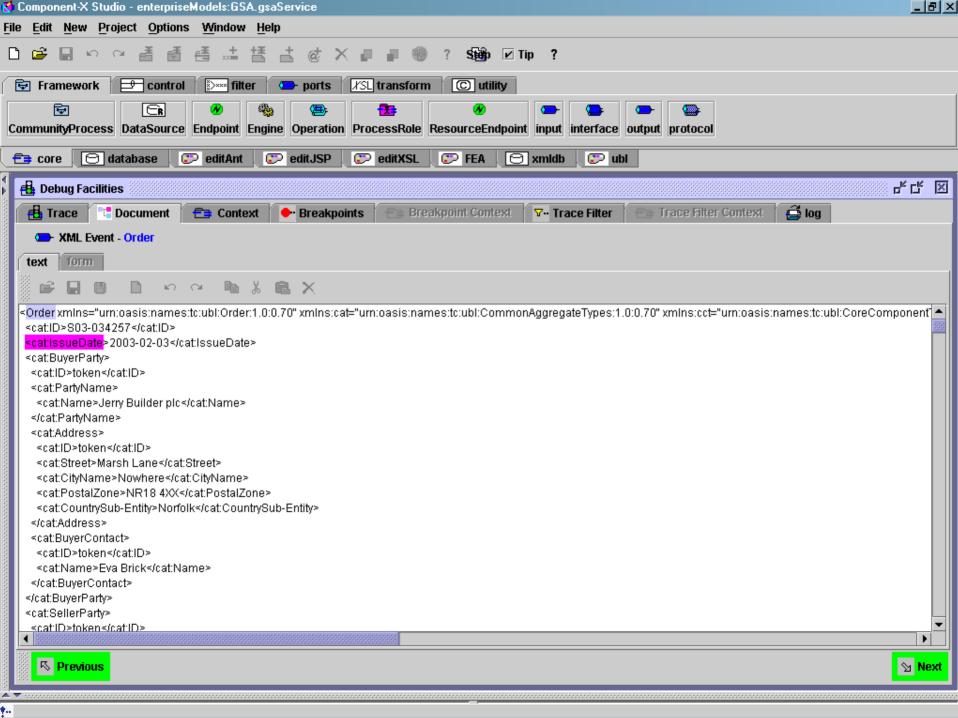


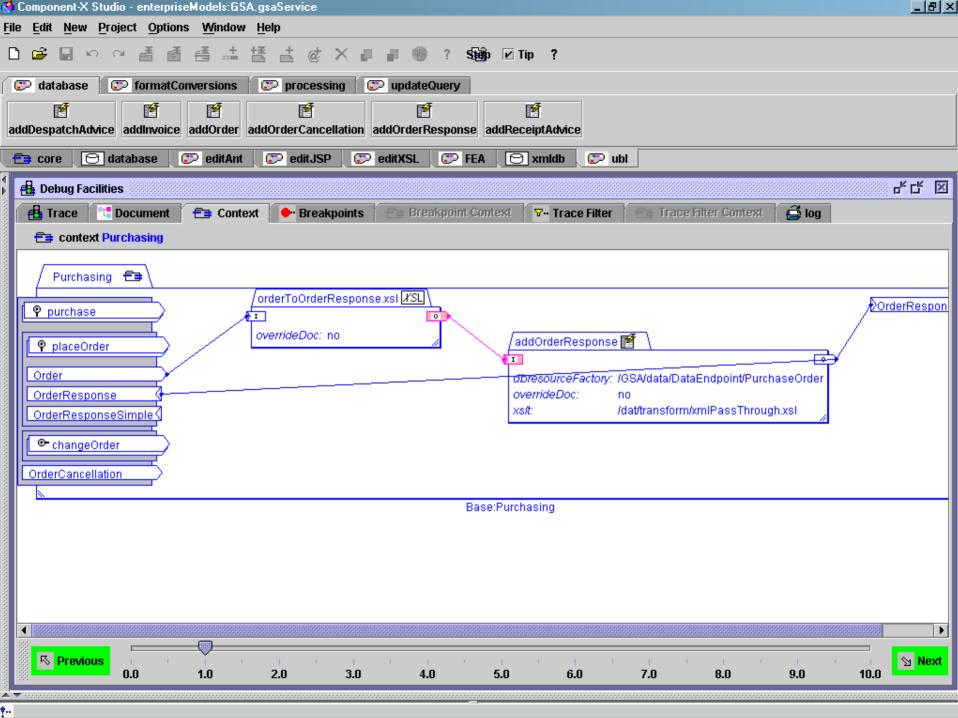


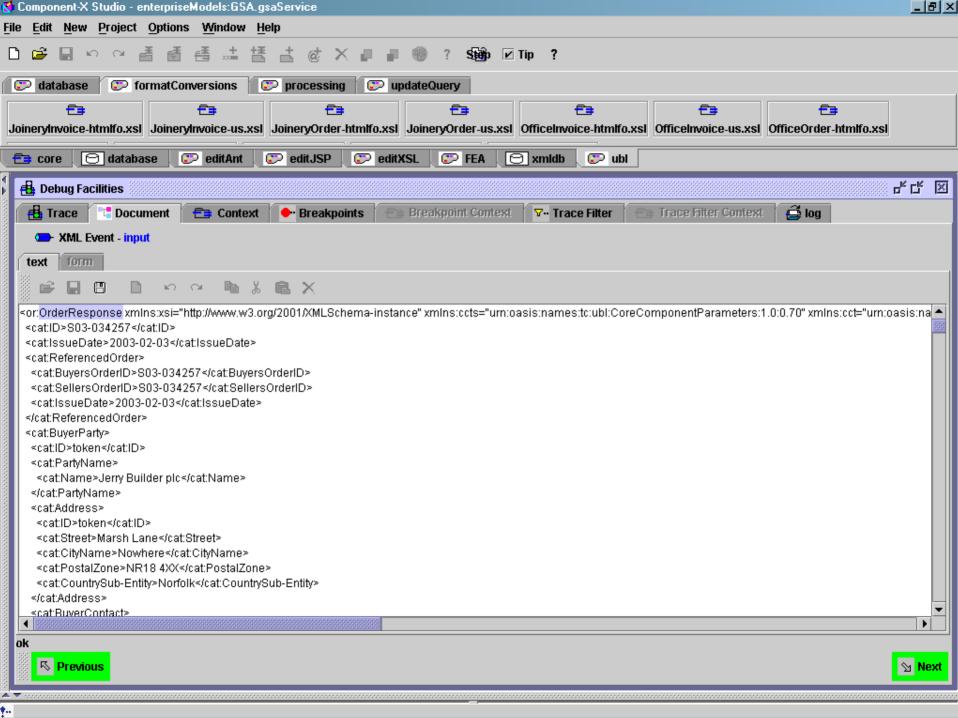


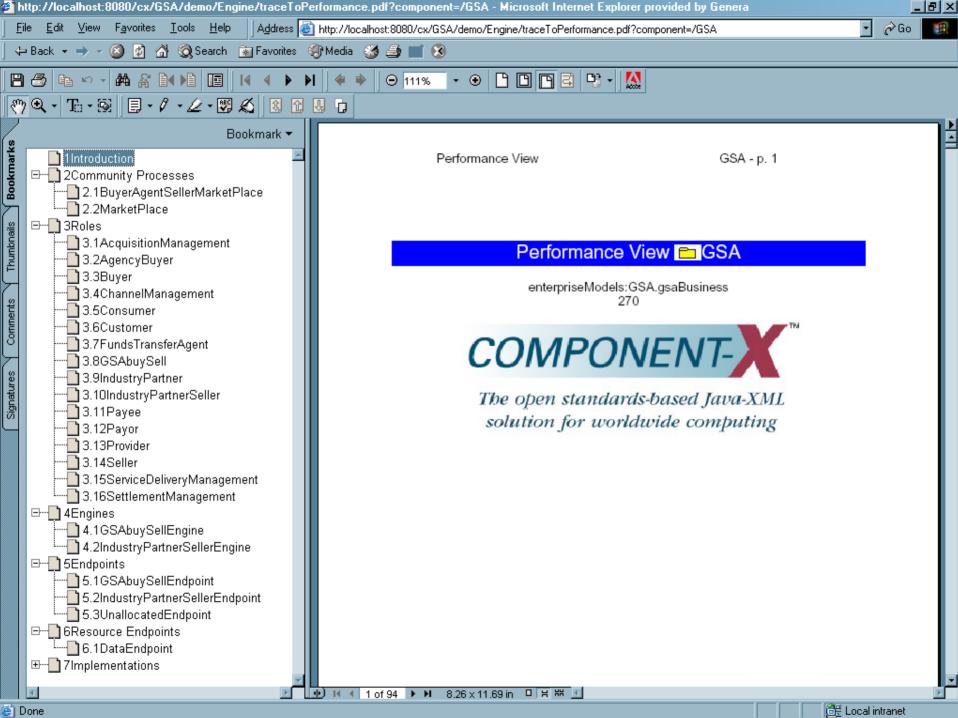


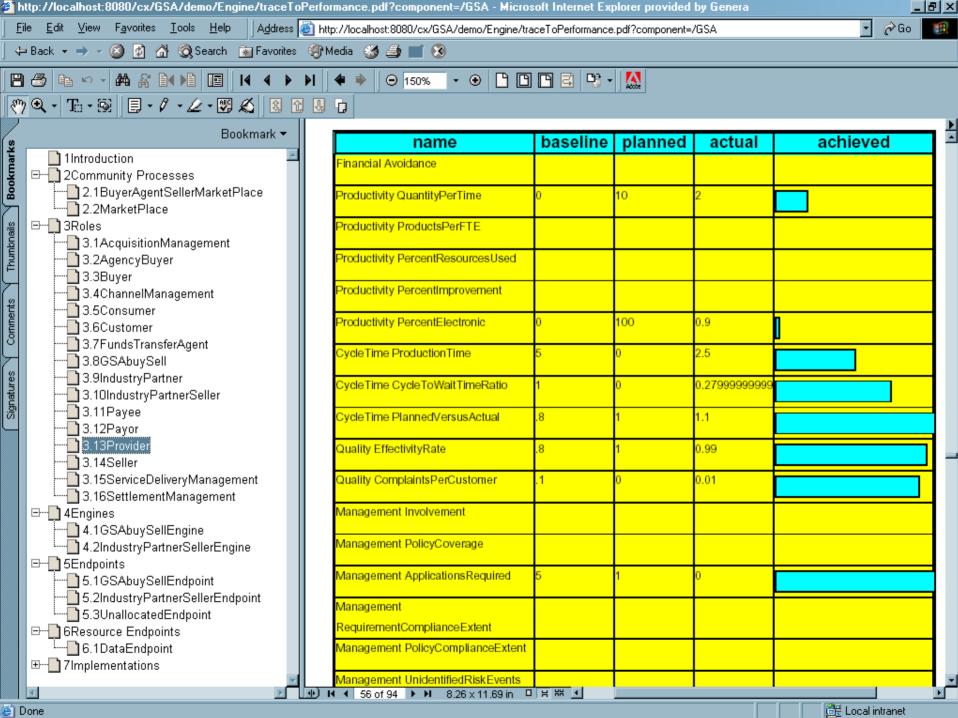












[4] What We Just Saw

Model as EA Repository

- Dynamic JIT EA artifact generation (in any format, accessible via the Web) from model annotations and associations
- Tracing through a model 'run' to generate a PRM 'line of sight'
 - Measurable metrics! Pick your favorite ABM, TQM, 6Sigma, etc.
- Since we have associated CPIC annotated aspects to our model,
 an OMB 300 is an output of, or derived from the model
 - Same for a Security Profile (or RM)

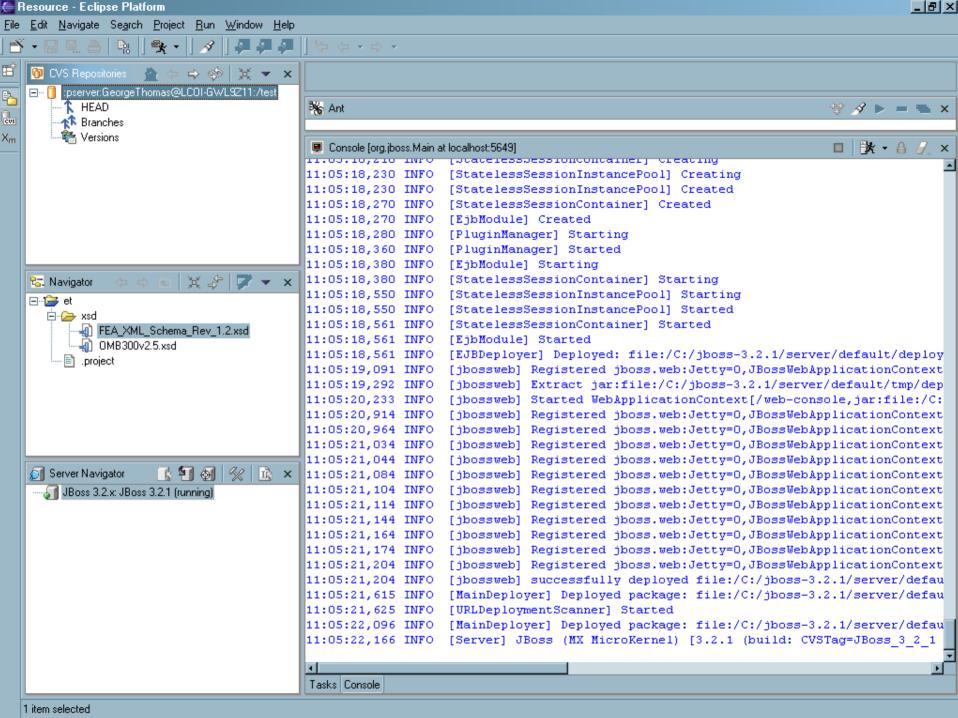
Core MDA Value Proposition

- Various abstraction levels (PIM to PSM linkage), component granularity as a recursive decomposition of components in roles
- Code generation the implementations (PSM) of roles are the components!!
 - Contrast with current 'requirements' notions
- Provisioning as a deployment 'adapter aspect' decision
 - e.g. WSDL or JMS?

50

[5] OSERA Project: MDA-IME Goals, 1 of 2

- In addition to PortMan POC capabilities shown;
 - Repository Federation
 - XMI based Syndication and Configuration Management
 - Semantic technologies application (XMI to XTM/OWL transformation) to PIM/PSM levels of abstraction as XMI syndication points
 - » Input to FEAMS and various Reg/Rep's
 - XForms based plug in for structured model annotations, ala NASCIO templates
 - Extending Eclipse: MDA-IME + SOIP-BPMS
 - PSM target platform as OSERA Project: SOIP-BPMS
 - JBOSS IDE (Eclipse + JBOSS)
 - » JMX based managing SOIP clusters/cloud



[5] OSERA Project: MDA-IME Goals, 2 of 2

- In addition to PortMan POC capabilities shown;
 - Industrial strength MOF
 - Versioning, lifecycle maintenance
 - Decoupled persistence layer
 - » unlike CVS, perhaps using Xindice
 - Collapse the CPIC and SDLC cycle, significantly reducing resource burden and overall timelines
 - 'diff' the 'as-is' and 'to-be' to generate Sequence Plan template
 - Based on configuration dependencies
 - Actionable EA Formalism (AEF)
 - FEA 'built-in'
 - Standard set of Views, EDOC Other?
 - FOSS!!

[6] SBIR/STTR Opportunity

- STTR for OSERA Project: MDA-IME
 - Ontological mapping leads to synthesized meta-model
 - Merging BPMN/BPML-BPEL and EDOC Object Model
 - Defining the correct/complete FEA OO
 - UI meta-model
 - XHTML, WSRP/WSIA, PDF synthesis
- SBIR for OSERA Project: SOIP-BPMS
 - Rationalize object models
 - JetSpeed to WSRP/WSIA and EJB
 - Architectural Style-Deployment decisions
 - Trans-coding Proxy or data Bridge pattern?
- SBIR for OSERA Program/Platform (?)
 - Business and Legal Model

For More Information

- Contact me!
 - George Thomas
 - GSA Enterprise Architect
 - g.thomas@gsa.gov
 - 202.219.1979
- About:
 - OSERA Program/Platform/Project support for;
 - EA and e-Gov Communities of Interest and Practice
 - and Open Source Software implementations of;
 - MDA
 - BPM
 - SOA
 - Web Services
 - J2EE
 - CBA